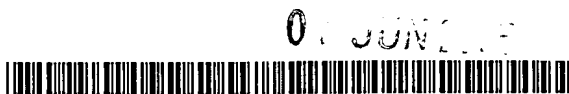


(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
15 July 2004 (15.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/058980 A2**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C12N 15/82, (74) Common Representative: CROPDESIGN N.V.; Technologiepark 3, B-9052 Zwijnaarde (BE).  
5/10, C07K 14/415, A01H 5/00
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP2003/051104
- (22) International Filing Date: 24 December 2003 (24.12.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 02080654.3 24 December 2002 (24.12.2002) EP
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CROPDESIGN N.V. [BE/BE]; Technologiepark 3, B-9052 Zwijnaarde (BE).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): SANZ MOLINERO, Ana Isabel [ES/BE]; Bernheimlaan 38, B-9050 Genbrugge (BE).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**  
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PLANTS HAVING MODIFIED GROWTH CHARACTERISTICS AND A METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention concerns a method for modifying the growth characteristics of plants by modifying expression in a plant of a nucleic acid sequence encoding a 2xC2H2 zinc finger protein and/or modifying level and/or activity in a plant of a 2xC2H2 zinc finger protein. The invention also relates to transgenic plants having modified growth characteristics, which plants have modified expression of a nucleic acid encoding a 2xC2H2 zinc finger protein. For example yield of crop plants are improved by the methods of the present invention.

WO 2004/058980 A2